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November 22, 1989

Dr. Harmon C. McAllister
Associate Research Director
The Council for Tobacco Research
900 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear Dr. McAllister:

I have been chosen Vice-Chair of the 1990 FASEB (Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology) Summer Research Conference on "Fc Receptors and Immunoglobulin-Binding Factors" to be held this summer from July 1-6 at Copper Mountain in Colorado. The Chair of the meeting is Dr. Wolf Fridman from the Curie Institute in Paris, France. The FASEB Summer Research Conferences bring a modest number of investigators together for intense scientific discussion over a five day period.

The first FASEB conference on "Fc receptors and Immunoglobulin-Binding Factors" was held in 1987 at Saxton's River, Vermont, and was enormously successful. At that time the first genes encoding Fc receptors had been only recently cloned, and there was, at the conclusion of the meeting that the next meeting should be in 1990, at which time there would be significant progress in the field to catch up on. This prediction has proven to be accurate. The progress in the field driven by the cloning and expression of the proteins has been extraordinary.

Fc receptors are expressed on T and B lymphocytes, macrophages, basophils, mast cells, natural killer cells, endothelium, trophoblast, keratinocytes, platelets, bacteria, certain virally infected cells, and a basic understanding of the structure and function is likely to have widespread and potentially significant impact. For example, there has been significant progress in understanding the subunit structure and signalling mechanism of the basophil/mast cell IgE Fc receptor, which is responsible for histamine release triggered by the ragweed pollen that afflicts so many of us. Another exciting area is in the study of lymphokine secretion by natural killer cells and macrophages after binding of immune complexes to Fc receptors. Genetic engineering has provided tools to examine in great detail the biology of immunoglobulin binding factors in serum. The development of hetero- or bispecific antibodies to target cytolytic potential toward tumor or other target cells may provide a new and powerful immunotherapeutic tool for

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clinicians. In short, progress has been swift and exciting, reflecting the increased numbers of labs in the area and the clinical relevance of the work.

The informal discussions Dr. Fridman and I have had with investigators in the field indicate that there is strong interest in a conference on this topic. There are active research labs working of this topic in North America, Japan, Australia, France, and England. The participation of these groups in the conference is important for the exchange of information on the topic.

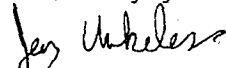
I am trying to raise funds for the partial support of travel and meeting expenses for the participants. Typical airfares for participants from the United States are \$400-500, and over \$1000 for invited speakers who come from overseas. Room, board and registration costs for the meeting are a modest \$300. Thus I am writing you to inquire about a possible financial contribution to help support this conference. Senior invited speakers as well as junior investigators would be eligible for support. We also wish to support at least ten junior investigators (at \$500 apiece) who might otherwise not be able to attend. These promising young investigators are the ones who will be making the significant contributions in the coming decades. It is important to involve young people in these conferences, but they often have the most limited resources.

The conference will be well advertised by FASEB in there publications as well as in SCIENCE, NATURE, and several other widely distributed journals. I know from discussions with investigators in this area that the conference will generate a great deal of interest, and that there will be more applicants than we can accept for the approximately 150 spaces available. The response I have had in calling speakers has been very positive. The meeting will have all the major laboratories in the area well represented.

Enclosed is a provisional program of the meeting. If you would like more details about the research conference please contact me at 212-241-7283, or by FAX 212-860-1174. The Chair for the meeting, Dr. Wolf Fridman [Institut Curie, Section Medical et. Hospital, 26 Rue D'Ulm, Inserm Unite 255, Immunologie Cellulaire et Clinique, Paris France] may be contacted at 33-1-4329-1242 X3313 or FAX 33-1-4325-5271.

Both of us and the other conferees will greatly appreciate any financial help you can give. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Jay Unkeless, Ph.D.
Professor of Biochemistry

p.s. Checks should be annotated "Fc Receptors" and made payable to:
FASEB
9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda MD 20014